

# ArizonaSERVES

*Service, Engagement, Responsiveness, Volunteerism, Encouragement & Support*



**Connecting  
Organizations  
to Existing  
Systems  
of Care**



# ArizonaSERVES



*"Budget cuts within state government have resulted in reduced or limited funding for services for our most vulnerable -- the elderly, disabled and low income residents.*

*Therefore, I'm establishing ArizonaSERVES. With the assistance of the Arizona Department of Economic Security, ArizonaSERVES will connect faith-based and non-profit organizations to help meet those needs."*

**Governor Janice K. Brewer,  
2010 State of the State Address**



# Arizona*SERVES* Task Force



The Governor's Arizona*SERVES* Task Force was created by Executive Order 2010-16, with the goal of connecting community and faith-based organizations with providers of care.

**The Task Force focuses on FIVE issue areas impacted by state budget deficit:**

- Foster Care Participation
- Free or Reduced Cost Child Care
- Supervised CPS Visits
- Elder Independence and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- Transportation for the Underserved

There are several government agencies, non-profits, and other providers offering these services. The systems are in place, they just need a little help!

# Foster Care Participation



## Children in Foster Care

- Over 10,000 children are in out-of-home care due to abuse, neglect or abandonment in Arizona.
- In 2009, family allowances that pay for diapers, books, other education expenses and emergency clothing were reduced by half.



## How can faith-based and community organizations **SERVE** our foster children and families?

- Foster parents are desperately needed; encourage community members to become foster or adoptive parents.
- Respite providers support existing foster parents; encourage community members to “help the helpers” by becoming respite providers.

Other opportunities and information can be found at **[www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov)**.

# Free or Reduced Cost Child Care

## Families who need Child Care

- Child care assistance is critical to helping families retain employment, become self-sufficient and prevent the use of government assistance or leaving their children in a questionable care setting.
- In February 2009, all new applicants for subsidized child care were placed on a waiting list.
- Currently, there are approximately 7,200 children on the child care waiting list.
- Almost half of these children are in families that have an income that is at or below the federal poverty level.\*

## How can faith-based and community organizations SERVE families in need of child care?

- Communicate with a child care provider near you
- Provide a scholarship for a low income child



For more information and ideas, visit [www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov).

\*\$18,312 annually for a family of three.



# Supervised CPS Visits



## What is supervised visitation?

- There are many children who cannot safely live with their parents and are placed in out of home care.
- When a child is removed from the home, Child Protective Services (CPS) must create a case plan that includes services to support the family's efforts to reunify, including supervised visitation between the child and parents.



## How can faith-based and community organizations **SERVE** families in need of Supervised Visits?

- Provide a meeting room for family visitation.
- “Adopt” a visitation room at your local CPS office. Decorate and/or donate toys.

More information and ideas can be found at [\*\*www.ArizonaSERVES.gov\*\*](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov).

# Elder Independence



## **Services that promote elder independence include:**

- assistance with basic activities of daily living,
- home visiting nurses and home health aides,
- adult day care,
- transportation to medical appointments,
- assistance with grocery shopping and bill paying,
- employment assistance, and
- services to support family caregivers of those with long term care needs such as people with Alzheimer's disease

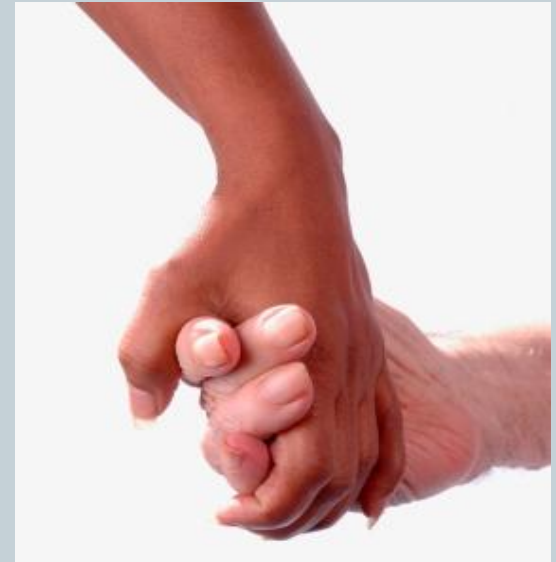
Many of these services have faced recent cuts due to the state's budget deficit.



# Grandparents Raising Grandchildren



- In Arizona 1,913 kin caregivers are raising 3,137 related foster care children who have been removed from their homes by Child Protective Services.
- Most of these grandparents are not licensed as foster parents so they do not receive the financial, educational and emotional supports that may be available.



## **How can faith-based and community organizations SERVE seniors and grandparents raising grandchildren?**

- Connect with organizations that provide services to the elderly and determine how to best serve your community.
- Provide respite care to grandparents raising grandchildren.

Find more opportunities and information at [www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov).



# Transportation for the Underserved



## Why is transportation important?

- Federal, state, regional, local government, faith-based and neighborhood transportation programs exist for vulnerable populations to keep people connected and healthy.
- Funding shortfalls are affecting transportation services that elderly, disabled and low-income residents rely on.
- Medical appointments, work, grocery store visits - all require some mode of transportation.

## How can faith-based and community organizations **SERVE** people who need help with transportation?


- Connect with organizations who provide transportation for the underserved
- Volunteer drivers and/or donate gas cards to these organizations


For more information and ideas, visit [www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov).

# What you'll find on [www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov)



Arizona  
SERVES



  
Arizona's Official Web Site

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Receive Email Updates

Welcome to ArizonaSERVES, an on-line resource dedicated to ensuring faith-based and community organizations within the State of Arizona have access to human service technical assistance, and to each other, as they serve their communities. ArizonaSERVES provides us with the opportunity to find new and existing ways to strengthen our communities. We know new relationships will be formed, we know local community assets will be optimized and most importantly, we know vulnerable and impoverished Arizonans will be taken care of. Join the movement. Click on one of the Overview or Toolkit buttons below to learn how to get involved today!

**Foster Care Participation**

Overview

Toolkit

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Overview

Toolkit

# Message from the Chair of the ArizonaSERVES Task Force

[www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov)



# ArizonaSERVES



To find out more, please visit

[www.ArizonaSERVES.gov](http://www.ArizonaSERVES.gov)

**PLEASE JOIN THE EFFORT OF ARIZONA SERVES BY**  
*Serving, Engaging, Responding, Volunteering,*  
*Encouraging and Supporting.*